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LETTER DATED 4 MARCH 1991 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of the Statement of the Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic of 1 March 1991, on the suspension of military operations in the Persian Gulf.

Text follows:

"The Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic was fully satisfied and pleased to receive reports on the suspension of military operations in the Persian Gulf and on the restoration of the independence and sovereignty of the State of Kuwait. Thus, the months-long unceasing efforts by the international community, expressed also in twelve United Nations Security Council resolutions, to eliminate the Iraqi aggression against and illegal annexation of the neighbouring Kuwait has been crowned with success. One can only regret that this outcome had to be achieved through the force of weapons and at the cost of human and material casualties due to the intransigence and stubbornness of the Iraqi leadership to comply with the relevant Security Council resolutions. The consequences of the military operations, that have affected so heavily Iraq itself and its people, fall solely and fully on the Iraqi leadership.

The Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic appreciates the unity, resolve and determination with which the international community has come forward to protect and liberate Kuwait, and with which it has adopted unambiguously the principle that the aggressor must not be allowed to benefit from its malevolent way of action. This is a result of the hopefully unfolding process of shaping the international relations on the principles of respect for national and human rights, friendship and cooperation.

The crisis in the Persian Gulf has shown that the accumulation of unresolved problems between States, ethnic strife, and religious intolerance, combined with excessive armament and stockpiling of weaponry, are no guarantee for the security of nations and for the stability in the whole region. The Ministry expresses its conviction that the international community shall exert equal efforts not only to eliminate the political, economic and moral consequences of the Persian Gulf war but also to settle all long-standing and unresolved problems of the Middle East region. For its part, it is determined to contribute to such a settlement through a well-balanced policy and relations with all countries of the region, as well as through its diplomatic activities."

End of text.

I would be most grateful if you could have the text of this letter, including the Statement of the Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic, circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Eduard KUKAN
Ambassador
Permanent Representative